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10/030999

*Pre Amended*  
*2/B*

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: )  
Holger KLAPPROTH ) Atty. Docket: STURK 0002  
Serial No. 10/030,999 )  
Filed: January 16, 2002 )  
LINKER SYSTEM FOR ACTIVATING )  
SURFACES FOR BIOCONJUGATION ) Date: February 19, 2002  
(As Amended) )

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT (B)**

**BOX: Non-Fee Amendment**  
Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D. C. 20231

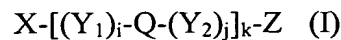
Sir:

Kindly amend the above-captioned application as follows:

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Kindly amend claims 1, 15-17, 18 and 19 by replacing them as follows:

1. (Amended) Linker system for activating surfaces for bioconjugation having the following general formula (I):



wherein:

X is a reactive group capable of covalently binding to a surface,

Z is a reactive group capable of covalently binding to a biomolecule,